

Appl. No. 10/642,991
Amdt. dated September 2, 2005
Reply to Office Action of June 3, 2005

Remarks

The present amendment responds to the Official Action dated June 3, 2005. The Official Action rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Salovuori U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0196781 ("Salovuori"). The Official Action rejected claims 7-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Yach U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0128036 ("Yach"). The Official Action rejected claims 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Salovuori in view of Yach. The Official Action rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Salovuori in view of Yach and further in view of Zhang U.S. Patent No. 6,661,785. These grounds of rejection are addressed below following a brief discussion of the present invention to provide context. Claims 1-7 and 10-12 have been amended to be more clear and distinct. Claims 1-12 are presently pending.

The Present Invention

A wireless communication system according to one aspect of the invention includes a mobile switching center providing voice connection services to a plurality of wireless devices, such as wireless telephones. The mobile switching center can provide voice connections between the wireless telephones, and also provides a connection to a public switched telephone network, in order to allow connections between the wireless telephones and wireline telephones.

The system preferably includes a server providing directory services and calling features, accessible by establishing an Internet Protocol (IP) connection between a wireless telephone requesting such services and the server. The telephone suitably communicates with the server when needed, in order to search for a desired telephone number, and also to download commands

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needed to implement desired calling features. Once a desired telephone number has been located in the directory and provided to the telephone, the telephone number may be selected, for example, by using the wireless telephone display and keypad, in order to initiate a call. In order to initiate the call, the wireless telephone initiates a connection suitable for voice communication. This connection may be initiated through the mobile switching center.

Alternatively, the system may include a voice over IP server, allowing the wireless telephone to initiate a voice over IP connection. In such a case, the voice over IP server manages an IP data stream to and from the wireless telephone, performing necessary translation between IP data and voice signals, and manages the transmission of communication data between the wireless telephone and the called telephone, suitably by providing a connection to a wired or wireless switching network, depending on the nature of the telephone being called.

In addition to using directory information to place calls, a wireless telephone may receive commands from the directory and features server and use these commands to implement calling features, such as monitoring a telephone that is busy when called and alerting the user when the telephone being monitored is no longer busy. Such commands may be downloaded from the directory and features server upon initial connection, or alternatively a command may be downloaded when needed.

The Art Rejections

All of the art rejections are based on Salovuori, Yach, and Zhang, with Salovuori standing alone or in combination with Yach or with Yach and Zhang, or Yach standing alone or in combination with Salovuori or with Salovuori and Zhang or with Salovuori, Yach and Zhang

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standing in combination. As addressed in greater detail below, Salovuori, Yach and Zhang do not support the Official Action's reading of them and the rejections based thereupon should be reconsidered and withdrawn. Further, the Applicant does not acquiesce in the analysis of Salovuori, Yach and Zhang made by the Official Action and respectfully traverses the Official Action's analysis underlying its rejections.

The Official Action rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Salovuori. In light of the present amendments to claim 1, this ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended, claims a wireless communication system for supporting communication by a plurality of wireless devices. The system comprises a packet data interface for supporting packet data communication by each of the plurality of wireless devices, a voice interface for supporting voice communication by each of the plurality of wireless devices; and a central data server operative to provide data to each of the plurality of wireless devices through a packet data connection in order to furnish data to a wireless device upon request by the wireless device. The central data server provides common access to data by two or more of the wireless devices. The data furnished by the central data server includes data and features organized and formatted for retrieval in response to user selection of the data and features.

These features in the claimed combination are not taught and are not made obvious by Salovuori. Salovuori teaches shared use of different wireless telecommunication systems and terminals. Salovuori provides for voice transmission through data packet transmission, but the transmission of data packets is organized as needed in order to perform message transmission

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and is not organized and formatted for retrieval in response to user selection of data and features. Claim 1, by contrast, provides for a combination of access to voice communication together with retrieval of data and features according to user selections. Claim 1, as amended, therefore defines over the cited art and should be allowed.

The Official Action rejected claims 7-12 under 102(e) as anticipated by Yach. In view of the present amendments to claims 7 and 10, this ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 7, as amended, claims a wireless device for communication using directory information and calling features through a packet data connection with a data server. The claimed device comprises a voice connection interface for establishing and maintaining a voice connection for voice communication through a switched voice network and a business service client module for retrieving from the data server calling information commonly accessible by the wireless device and by other similar wireless devices and for processing and presenting calling information received from the data server, the business service client module being operative to direct the initiation of voice communication with a desired telephone upon identification and retrieval of the desired telephone number from the data server. These limitations in the claimed combination are not taught or made obvious by Yach.

Yach teaches a dual mode mobile device connected to a data packet network. A user is able to use the mobile device to gain access to data items associated with or directed to the user, for example, data hosted on the user's personal computer 120 or a commonly shared data storage mechanism, for example a server used in a corporate environment. However, the data accessible to the mobile device of Yach is data associated with the user of the mobile device. Yach does

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not teach that a mobile device uses a packet data connection to gain access to calling information commonly accessible to other similar devices, as is claimed by claim 7. Access by a mobile device to commonly accessible information, as is claimed by claim 7, allows for a simpler design for mechanisms for storage and retrieval of commonly accessible information that does not need to be associated with a particular user, such as a central corporate telephone directory or a set of calling features. The invention as claimed by claim 7 avoids a need to tie each data item to a particular user, as is done by the system of Yach. Claim 7, as amended, therefore defines over the cited art and should be allowed.

Claim 10, as amended, claims establishing a packet data connection between one of a plurality of wireless devices and a directory and features server storing calling information commonly accessible to two or more of the wireless devices, selecting desired calling information from the server and delivering the calling information to a requesting wireless device and initiating and maintaining a call from the requesting wireless device to a telephone identified by the calling information delivered from the server. As noted above with respect to claim 7, Yach does not teach and does not make obvious storing commonly accessible information and delivering the information to a wireless device over a packet data connection. Claim 10, as amended, therefore defines over the cited art and should be allowed.

The Official Action rejected claims 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Salovuori in view of Yach. Claims 3-5 are dependent claims having claim 1 as a base claim. Because claim 1 has been shown to be allowable, claims 3-5 should also be allowed.

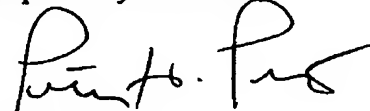
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The Official Action rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Salovuori in view of Yach and further in view of Zhang. Claim 6 is a dependent claim having claim 1 as a base claim. Because claim 1 has been shown to be allowable, claim 6 should also be allowed.

Conclusion

All of the presently pending claims, as amended, appearing to define over the applied references, withdrawal of the present rejection and prompt allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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